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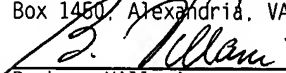
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Date of Deposit: January 5, 2006

Applicant(s): J. NAITO et al

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are set forth in the listing of claims beginning on page 3. Claims 1-12 have been canceled and new claims 13-28 have been added.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.